

Amendments To Claims

1-19. (Cancelled).

pubcl 20. (New) A method for exclusive caching, comprising the steps of:

evicting a set of information from a host cache;
storing the information in a storage system cache if the information is clean when evicted.

21. (New) The method of claim 20, wherein the step of storing the information in a storage system cache comprises the step of transferring the information to the storage system cache using a demote operation.

X 22. (New) The method of claim 20, wherein the step of storing the information in a storage system cache comprises the step of storing the information in any free area of the storage system cache.

23. (New) The method of claim 20, wherein the step of storing the information in a storage system cache comprises the step of storing the information in a predetermined sub-area of the storage system cache.

24. (New) The method of claim 20, further comprising the steps of:

reading the information from the storage system cache;
storing the information in the host cache and evicting the information from the storage system cache.

25. (New) The method of claim 20, further comprising the step of selecting a data block for eviction from the storage system cache from among a set of unshared data blocks in the storage system cache.

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26. (New) The method of claim 20, further comprising the step of selecting a data block for eviction from the storage system cache using a shared status of the data block as a factor in a replacement policy.

27. (New) A computer system, comprising:
storage system having a storage media and a storage system cache;
host system having a host cache;
means for exclusively caching a set of information obtained from the storage media such that the information is stored either in the host cache or the storage system cache but not both caches at the same time wherein the means for exclusively caching includes means for evicting the information from the host cache and storing the information in the storage system cache if the information is clean when evicted.

28. (New) The computer system of claim 27, wherein the means for storing the information in the storage system cache comprises means for transferring the information to the storage system cache in a demote operation via a communication path between the host system and the storage system.

29. (New) The computer system of claim 27, wherein the means for storing the information in the storage system cache comprises means for storing the information in any free area of the storage system cache.

30. (New) The computer system of claim 27, wherein the means for storing the information in the storage system cache the means for storing the information in a predetermined sub-area of the storage system cache.

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31. (New) The computer system of claim 27, further comprising:

means for reading the information from the storage system cache;

means for storing the information in the host cache and evicting the information from the storage system cache..

32. (New) The computer system of claim 27, further comprising means for selecting a data block for eviction from the storage system cache from among a set of unshared data blocks in the storage system cache.

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33. (New) The computer system of claim 27, further comprising means for selecting a data block for eviction from the storage system cache using a shared status of the data block as a factor in a replacement policy.

34. (New) The computer system of claim 27, wherein the storage system cache includes a sub-area for exclusive caching and a sub-area holding other cached information.

35. (New) The computer system of claim 34, wherein the other cached information is obtained by performing read-ahead operations from the storage media.

36. (New) A host cache having means for transferring a set of information evicted from the host cache to a storage system using a demote operation if the information is clean and transferring the information evicted from the host cache to the storage system in a write operation if the information is dirty.

37. (New) The host cache of claim 36, wherein the host cache is a RAM cache.

Sub C1 38. (New) The host cache of claim 36, wherein the host cache is a disk cache.
